

Greetings, NALJA members

I hope this finds all of you having a wonderful, productive season. As we take time to reflect on 2009, I hope you have fond memories of your NALJA family. We have had a wonderful year.

The three regional shows were excellent. The Heartland show in Ottawa, Kan., was well-attended. As always, it was a joy to work with all of you from the Heartland. Then it was on to Murfreesboro, Tenn. – one of my favorite places. It was a tough show, and it always is good to be with each of you. Then I went to the western regional show. It had been a few years since I had attended that show, and it was even better than I remembered. It always is fun to be with you, and you make us feel so at home. I did some sightseeing, too, covering Washington, Oregon and California in four days. All three regions are unique, and it is a pleasure to attend those shows.

The highlight of the summer was having our Limousin family to Amarillo, Texas, in July for the National Junior Limousin Show and Congress (NJLSC) and the All-American Limousin Futurity (AALF). It was a joy to work with my Texas colleagues and the city of Amarillo to host you. We hope you left with a renewed excitement for the Limousin breed and what NALJA represents.

I have received so many compliments on our group from Amarillo folks. They cannot believe how nice, friendly, hardworking and classy our group is. Congratulations to each of you because that is a tall compliment. Juniors, be sure to thank your parents or whoever brought you. It is neither easy nor inexpensive. Parents, you never will make a better investment for your youngsters' futures than with NALJA.

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Dear Limousin juniors

Hey, all! I hope that school and all of your activities have been going well. And, as amazing as all of you tend to be, I am sure that they are. Everything is going great here in Texas. It is windy and dry, but what is new?

The NALJA Board of Directors is hard at work for you, with all sorts of new and exciting things for the National Junior Limousin Show and Congress (NJLSC) and the breed. We had our fall meeting in Oklahoma City in September. All of us are on the same page. We all want you to have the best year in NALJA that you possibly can.

Something I want to reiterate to all of you is how important activities are when you are growing up. School organizations teach you a lot about being responsible and purposeful. NALJA always has been a great help for me in the self-confidence area. I was not always the bright beam of sunshine that I am today. I struggled with having something to call mine – something that gave me responsibility and a sense of accomplishment.

Going out to the barn can seem like a daunting task when you sit and just think about it. But when I walk to the barn, all of that fades away. There are days when I would rather be doing anything else, but the moment I halter my heifer, I feel better. The sheer act of getting an animal from the stall is trying. When I do get her out, I feel like I can do anything – at least anything in the show barn.

All kinds of menial tasks like that get me going. Cleaning my room or helping with the dishes gives satisfaction. You see the result. Just like rinsing. You rinse and, after blowing for a while, you see the hair dry, and there are immediate results. When you walk away from that heifer, you see something you are good at – something that makes you feel worthwhile.

If you want more than the cattle, join a club or any kind of extracurricular activity. If it is the chess club or the football team, the gratification always is nice. Help your mom clean the house or cook dinner. Not only are you helping around the house, but you also take the stress of running a household down a notch, and everyone is happy. Stay involved. Socialize. Just hanging out with friends and making them laugh can help you tremendously.

I am missing you all and cannot wait to see you again!

– *Shayla Carmichael*
2009–2010 NALJA President

4th Corner Post package will sell in Denver

Schilling Limousin of Kansas is donating the centerpiece of the fourth annual Corner Post Genetics Package. It will sell during the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo., at the National Limousin Sale, which starts at 6 p.m. Jan. 11, 2010. The Lim-Flex® heifer, Schilling's WinningTicket, is a Feb. 27, 2009, embryo-transfer (ET) daughter of AUTO Black Dakota 129J out of Schilling's Seniorita.

All proceeds from the package will benefit the Corner Post Fund, which will facilitate additional activities and scholarships for Limousin juniors. For information about contributing to the Corner Post Fund, contact Bret Begert at (806) 375-2308 or Kate Maher in the NALF office.



Schilling's WinningTicket

Annual fee funds programs, services

Included with this issue of *NALJA News* is a notice requesting payment of the 2010 junior-activity fee. All revenue generated from the fee goes directly to the junior association to help fund its programs and activities. Submit your \$25 activity fee promptly; any fee not paid by the March 15, 2010, due date will incur an additional \$25 late fee. Remember, payment of the activity fee is required for you to enter and participate in the 2010 regional and national junior shows.

NALJA seeks host for 2011 NJLSC

The NALJA Board of Directors is soliciting bids to host the 2011 National Junior Limousin Show and Congress (NJLSC). Any state Limousin association may submit a proposal, and the NALJA Board will consider the ones it receives at its spring meeting.

'Genetics on Ice' benefits summer events

The Limousin breed's annual "Genetics on Ice" benefit auction will be Jan. 10, 2010, during the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo. The proceeds will support the NJLSC and the All-American Limousin Futurity (AALF).

The lots will include frozen embryos; semen; NJLSC shirt, awards and banquet-program sponsorships; ad pages in the NJLSC-AALF souvenir program; and many interesting, unique items.

NALF will host the event after its member social at the Doubletree Hotel Denver, which starts at 6 p.m. American Cattle Services (ACS) is organizing the benefit.

"Genetics on Ice" started in 1984 to fund the first AALF. Most items offered that year were frozen semen and pregnant recipient females, thus the name. Starting with the second auction in 1985, the NJLSC and AALF have shared the proceeds. To date, the event has raised about \$2 million for the breed's premier summer events.

Visit our home on the Web

Click the "Juniors" button on www.nalf.org to complete the NALJA member survey; view the NALJA photo album; learn about and apply for the NALJA Board, grants, scholarships and awards; download brochures about selecting, feeding and raising quality Limousin cattle; order NALJA merchandise; and much more.

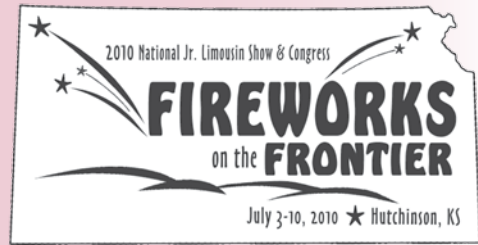
Greetings, NALJA members

Your NALJA Board of Directors met in Oklahoma City in September for its fall meeting. We always reflect on the past shows and try to make every year better. We are looking forward to working with the Kansas Limousin Breeders Association (KLBA) and being in Hutchinson for the NJLSC July 3-9, 2010. The Kansas folks already are hard at work to make it next year's premier event.

We are here to serve you and our wonderful breed of cattle. Feel free to contact any NALJA Board member, Kate Maher or me with any concern or thoughts about NALJA you might have. We love to hear from you and consider it an honor to get to work for you.

May you find peace and happiness in all you do. We have so much to be thankful for in this country. I am thankful to be a part of NALJA and the Limousin breed with so many wonderful people from all over the United States. As you celebrate your accomplishments for 2009 and look ahead to the challenges and opportunities in the coming year, may God bless you and your families.

— **Bret Begert**
Director of Junior Activities



Tentative Schedule of Events

Saturday, July 3

8 a.m. Cattle may begin arriving
4 p.m. NALJA Board of Directors interviews

Sunday, July 4

7 a.m. NALJA Board meeting
9 a.m. Check in cattle
3 p.m. State advisors' meeting
4 p.m. Tenderfoot social
7 p.m. Opening ceremonies, with fireworks and dance to follow

Monday, July 5

8 a.m. Public-speaking contest
11 a.m. Limi Boosters Limousin Beef Cook-Off
1 p.m. NALJA Annual Membership Meeting
2:30 p.m. Cow Camp preliminaries

Tuesday, July 6

8 a.m. Steer, bred-and-owned and Lim-Flex® shows

Wednesday, July 7

8 a.m. Owned-female show, with Junior and Intermediate divisions' showmanship-contest finals to follow

Thursday, July 8

8 a.m. Senior Division showmanship-contest finals
10:30 a.m. Judging contest
3 p.m. Cow Camp finals

Friday, July 9

8 a.m. All-American Limousin Futurity
2 p.m. NALJA presidential election, with NALJA Board meeting to follow
7 p.m. NALJA awards banquet, with dance to follow

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